



AIMING
CHANGE FOR
TOMORROW

Annual Report 2023



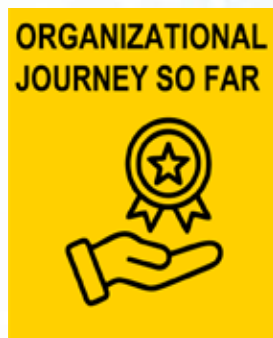
A tomorrow where everyone has
opportunities to prosper

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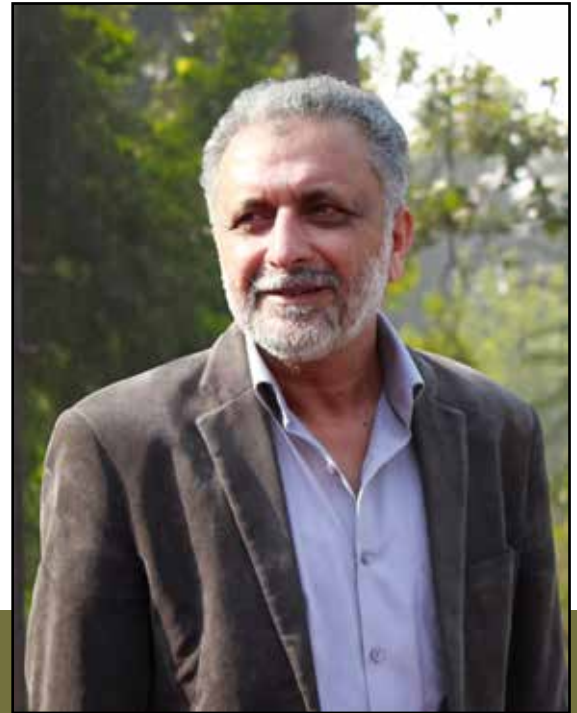


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Dear Members and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year's endeavors, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude for the unwavering dedication and commitment that have defined our collective journey. In the face of unprecedented challenges, our resolve to uplift communities and nurture change has remained unyielding.

Throughout the year, our efforts have been anchored in the unwavering belief that every individual deserves access to the basic tenets of a dignified life: health, education, and opportunity. Guided by this principle, we have embarked on a transformative journey that has touched the lives of millions across diverse landscapes.

In the realm of education, we have illuminated pathways to knowledge, empowering countless individuals with the tools to shape their destinies. Through innovative programs and strategic partnerships, we have expanded access to quality education, ensuring that no child is left behind.

In the arena of health and nutrition, our initiatives have not only nourished bodies but also nurtured hope. By tackling the root causes of malnutrition and disease, we have sown the seeds of resilience, fostering communities that are equipped to thrive in the face of adversity.

Our achievements extend far beyond the confines of statistics; they resonate in the lives that have been transformed and the futures that have been reimagined. From remote villages to bustling urban centers, our impact has reverberated, leaving an indelible mark on the fabric of society.

As we look to the future, let us draw strength from the victories of the past and chart a course that is bold and compassionate. Together, let us continue to build bridges of opportunity, empower voices of change, and champion the cause of humanity.

I extend my deepest appreciation to each one of you for your unwavering support and unwavering commitment. It is through our collective efforts that we will continue to create a world where every individual can thrive.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Mubashir Nabi
Founder President
Aiming change for Tomorrow

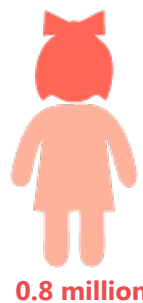
ORGANIZATIONAL JOURNEY SO FAR



Organizational Journey So Far

Aiming Change for Tomorrow (ACT) is a nationally recognized non-profit organization that has been driving positive change across Pakistan since 2012, with a focus on empowering vulnerable communities through initiatives in education, healthcare, nutrition, climate resilience and more. Guided by its vision of "a tomorrow where everyone has opportunities to prosper," ACT takes an integrated approach centered on social mobilization, capacity building, and inclusive partnerships, collaborating closely with communities, government entities and international agencies. Notably, ACT's commitment to supporting those most in need and enabling progress aligns with national development goals and contributes directly to the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in support of the most vulnerable groups, such as women, adolescent girls, youth, and children, all while embracing an inclusive approach. Notably, ACT has been recognized with a presidential award in acknowledgment of its impactful contributions.

Direct beneficiaries: 4.6 million
Indirect beneficiaries: 10 million



Vision: A tomorrow where everyone has opportunities to prosper.

Mission: Empower communities to progress and be diversely resilient through promotion of peoples' engagement, capacity building and partnership focusing on children, youth, and women.

Geographic Locations 40 districts across Pakistan including AJK.

- BALOCHISTAN
- KPK
- PUNJAB
- SINDH
- ICT
- GB
- AJK



Financial Portfolio

Grant management	1.2 Billion PKR
Philanthropist Charity Mobilization	10 Billion PKR
Community support in kind	1.5 Billion PKR
Staff	650

Member: ACT is a member of various alliances and has partnerships with

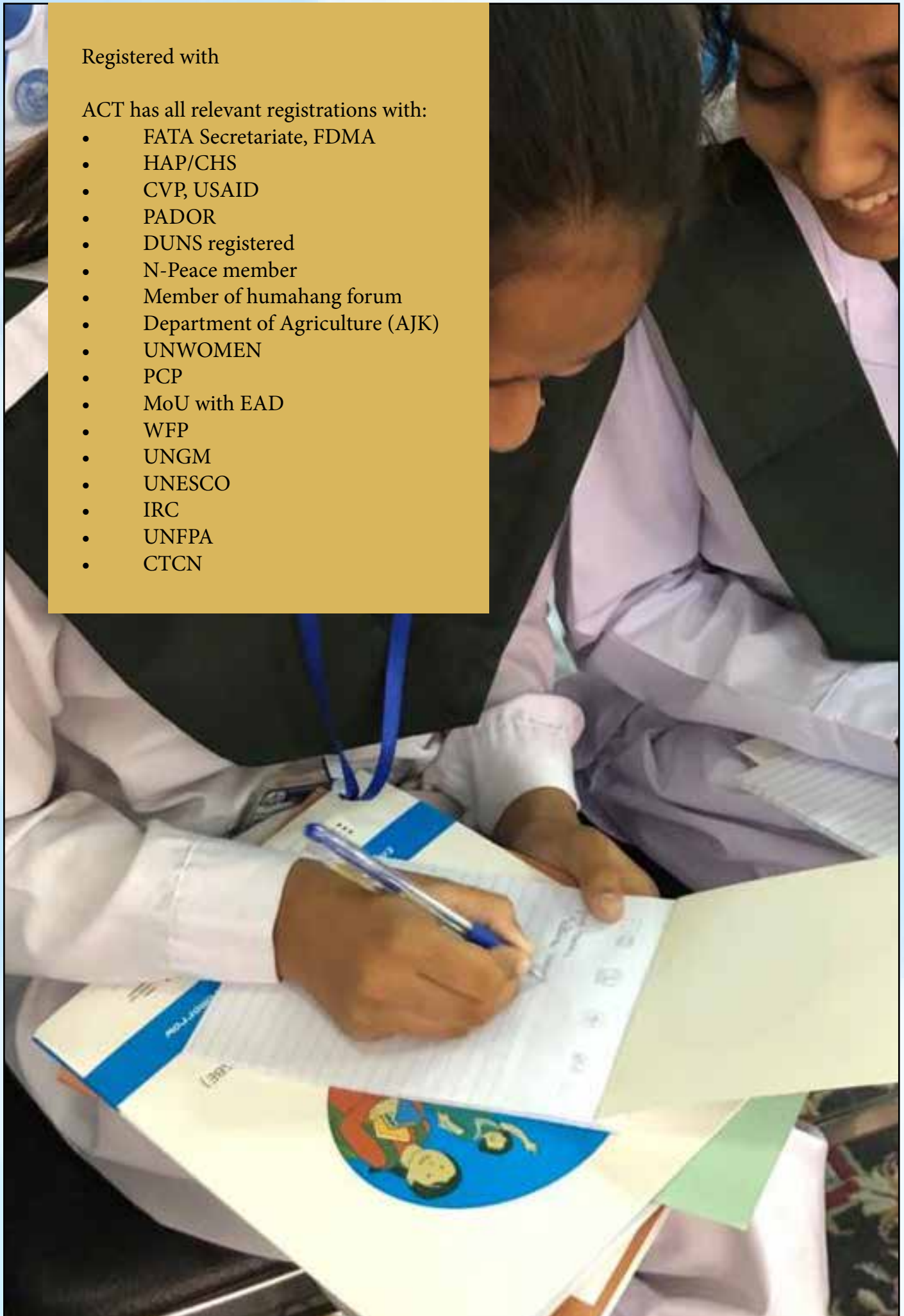
- Child Rights Movement
- Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) Alliance
- Better Cotton Initiative (BCI)
- Men Engage Alliance
- SUN-CSA Alliance
- All 4 provincial Education Departments
- Ministry of Education
- HEC and various universities



Registered with

ACT has all relevant registrations with:

- FATA Secretariate, FDMA
- HAP/CHS
- CVP, USAID
- PADOR
- DUNS registered
- N-Peace member
- Member of humahang forum
- Department of Agriculture (AJK)
- UNWOMEN
- PCP
- MoU with EAD
- WFP
- UNGM
- UNESCO
- IRC
- UNFPA
- CTCN



POLICIES & SYSTEMS





Education Initiatives Bridging Margins and Empowering Communities

Total Beneficiaries: 2.5 million

Since its establishment in 2012, ACT has been playing a significant role in enhancing the quality of education programs in Pakistan through its dedicated efforts. These include investments in teacher training, the development of curricula and technical support in collaboration with both private and public sectors.

In 2023, ACT continued its projects in partnership with various educational entities such as the Federal Ministry of Education, Elementary & Secondary Education (KPK), the Directorate of Curriculum and Teacher Education (DCTE) Khyber, the School Education Department (SED-Punjab), and the Quaid-e-Azam Academy for Educational Development Punjab. These projects were supported by UNFPA and the British Council Pakistan.

Below is a brief overview of the education projects undertaken this year:



DPD Staff Training:

The Directorate of Curriculum and Teacher Education (DCTE) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, with support from ACT International and UNFPA, concluded three phases of teacher training on Life Skills-Based Education (LSBE). This initiative aimed to enhance teachers' ability to effectively implement LSBE by providing comprehensive knowledge of the curriculum's importance and practical strategies for integration. Teachers developed skills in student-centered teaching, resource management, and authentic assessment methods throughout the program.

Pilot Roll-out of Inclusive Curriculum for Life Skill Based Education:

The Inclusive Education Curriculum for Life Skills-Based Education (LSBE), launched by ACT in 2022, has made substantial progress in 2023 through a successful pilot roll-out.

Key highlights :

- Development of three comprehensive textbooks and an audio resource catering to diverse student needs, particularly addressing disabilities.
- Recruitment of a dedicated team of nine facilitators to oversee pilot activities in schools.
- Involvement of 415 students across three schools, leading to noticeable improvements in behaviour and attitudes towards life skills.

Pilot Roll-out in (ICT):

- The LSBE textbook pilot program aimed at Grades IV and VIII students was conducted across three diverse school settings. This initiative selected a primary school (218 students), a girls' high school/college (77 students), and a boys' school (120 students) to integrate life skills into their curriculum.
- Teacher preparation was prioritized with a comprehensive orientation session to ensure effective delivery of the LSBE curriculum and teaching methods.

The pilot rollout successfully incorporated LSBE into the broader educational framework, empowering students with essential life skills for navigating challenges and fostering positive community contributions.

Teachers Training Balochistan (Life Skills-Based Education' For Private School Teachers):

- Over 141 teachers from private schools in Quetta participated in an extensive training program on Life Skills-Based Education (LSBE).
- The initiative aims to empower educators to integrate LSBE principles seamlessly into their classrooms, fostering inclusivity and comprehensive learning environments.
- Child-centered education and effective resource utilization are promoted to enhance students' reasoning, problem-solving, and critical thinking abilities.

A student thought on LSBE inclusion in pilot phase

"Hi, i m Maria, my school introduced Life Skill Based Education, and it changed everything. I learned to listen to others, to understand their feelings, and to express myself without fear. I learned that it's okay to struggle, to feel sad sometimes, but that I have the strength to overcome. And when I discovered how to manage my money, I saw hope for my future. LSBE wasn't just a subject; it was a lifeline, guiding me through the stormy seas of adolescence with newfound courage and wisdom."

Case Cade Trainings LSBE

Six impactful cascade trainings unfolded in three districts—Rajanpur, Dera Ghazi Khan, and Layyah. A total of 189 students actively engaged in this transformative program, representing a rich tapestry of linguistic, age, ethnic, and institutional diversity.

Refresher training on reproductive health counseling for national youth helpline staff:

The two-day refresher training for 12 National Youth Helpline counsellors markedly enhanced the proficiency of counselors in Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) orientation, psychosocial counseling, and the comprehension of safeguarding policies



School Connect Program with Support of British Council Pakistan and Provincial and Federal Education Ministries



ACT under its education portfolio We are working with South Punjab Education Department and British council on School Connect Program and trained 600 Public sector school heads from 12 districts of Southern Punjab on Enabling Leadership and Instructional Leadership, provided handholding support for the implementation of Action Plans in the schools.

24 training workshops were conducted
150,000 teachers and students of 600 schools benefited

Designing CPD Program for Parent Teacher Councils in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa & School Councils in Punjab

In November 2023, ACT initiated new phase Designing a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) framework for school councils to work on another school leadership standards i.e. The CPD framework/modules are structured around the fifth key area of 'Leading in the Community' co-created by the British Council and government partners in KP, Punjab Province and ICT.

The project will benefit the 1500 schools





BEYOND SURVIVAL, WE'RE NURTURING COMMUNITIES TO THRIVE WITH OPTIMAL NUTRITION

Total Beneficiaries: 1.0 million

Recognizing the significance of health and nutrition for disadvantaged communities, ACT has been actively contributing in Pakistan through projects with the World Food Programme (WFP), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and EZShifa (Pvt) Ltd. These initiatives focus on promoting health awareness, enhancing family income, improving nutrition, and increasing access to medical facilities.

Key project activities undertaken in 2023 include :

12,000 families having malnourished Pregnant and Lactating women (PLW) and children under 5 received cash assistance and awareness for nutrition.

5096 family bread earners engaged in Cash-for-Work programs providing labour to restore livelihoods and build resilience by rehabilitating community infrastructure like roads, water channels, raised platforms, embankments etc.

127 villages enhanced with community-based climate resilience including Emergency Response and Preparedness (EPR) systems, Early Warning Systems, resilience infrastructure, Livelihood diversification, Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA).

Nutrition Project (Naseerabad):

The Cash Top-Up for Nutrition Program in Naseerabad District, Pakistan, has revolutionized the fight against malnutrition by offering direct financial support to vulnerable households, spanning 679 villages and benefiting 9,247 families. With PKR12,000 per cycle and a total of PKR36,000 over three cycles, families access vital nutrition and healthcare services, shaping a healthier future. Through strategic adjustments and unwavering commitment, the program continues to make impactful strides in alleviating malnutrition and empowering vulnerable populations.



ACT Social mobilizer conducting awareness session on Better Nutrition for Mother & Children and Financial Literacy to the community in Village Attaullah Khan Buledi , Union Council Behram Khan Buledi

Telemedicine - EZshifa

ACT is leveraging telemedicine to improve health rights in remote areas such as

- Jaffarabad
- Rajanpur



“

My name is Alishba and I am extending my thanks to the Mother and Child healthcare sessions which brought me awareness of such things like the ambulance that can be called by dialing a simple number and that multiple issues can occur during a women’s pregnancies but have solutions. I wish that such sessions happen more frequently so that important knowledge can be gained.

”



Mothers Gala- MAA Mela

To Engage Communities through Social Mobilization for Education & Awareness around Mother & Child Health Care

With financial backing from JICA, ACT-I initiated a groundbreaking project to enhance women and children’s healthcare in underserved regions of Multan, Vihari, and Khanewal districts in southern Punjab, conducting 950 sessions engaging 24,157 individuals, including community influencers, in a concerted effort to drive positive change.

**LIVELIHOOD &
SOCIAL
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Resilience Building And Climate Change
Total beneficiaries : 0.5M

2301 women from vulnerable households engaged in Cash-for-Training programs in livestock management, enterprise development, poultry farming, and kitchen gardening, as well as supplying necessary inputs and cash, to boost livelihoods.

Cash for work program :

Under Resilience and Climate Change portfolio, ACT, with the support of the World Food Programme, provided assistance to rebuild community resilience in Balochistan following the floods. A total of 14,838 families benefited from the conditional cash assistance project, directly aiding 103,866 individuals and disbursing PKR 311 million. The projects also provided livelihood skills training on poultry farming, livestock, smart agriculture and small enterprise. This initiative underscores resilience and unity, turning assistance into empowerment for communities affected by the floods.

Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Water Pond (WFP):

A total of 47 ponds were meticulously revitalized or constructed across both districts, with 23 in Jaffarabad and 24 in Shobatpur, executed over two implementation cycles.

Desilting and Rehabilitation of Water Channels:

The collaborative response led to the successful rehabilitation of a cumulative distance of 120 kilometers of irrigation channels in both Jaffarabad and Shobatpur over the project's lifecycle. In the inaugural cycle, 59 water channels underwent meticulous desilting and restoration, contributing not only to the revival of vital water distribution networks but also playing a pivotal role in sustaining agricultural practices. Building on this success, the subsequent cycle saw an additional 43 water channels undergoing thorough desilting processes.

Cash based Transfer Project in Balochistan

In collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), ACT embarked on a comprehensive mission to validate the roster of beneficiaries in the Shobatpur District. With scrupulous attention to detail, the project team verified a total of 8,639 beneficiaries enlisted in Shobatpur. Spanning across 17 Union Councils and five Tehsils, the team conducted thorough visits to each community, ensuring accuracy and integrity in beneficiary records.

Employment intensive reconstruction in flood affected districts (Rajanpur and Shobatpur):

by engaging 442 beneficiaries in the Cash for Work (CFW) program, ensuring fair opportunities for community participation in infrastructure rehabilitation. a total of 1502 households in Rajanpur and 993 households in Shobatpur directly reaped the benefits of these improvements.



Capacity Building Training on Livestock Management

Jaffarabad; 08 training sessions were conducted, engaging a collective participation of 276 females across both cycles. Through this structured approach, the initiative aimed to empower women with knowledge and skills that could positively impact their lives, their communities, and the overall sustainability of livelihoods.

Sohbatpur: 181 flood affected women has resulted in a story of individual and community upliftment, woven with threads of knowledge, resilience, and newfound economic freedom.



Training on Entrepreneurship/ Small Enterprises Development & Management

The enterprise development training successfully engaged 351 women participants. These interactive sessions went beyond theoretical knowledge, encouraging participants to showcase their cultural and artistic talents through the creation of local handicrafts and embroidery items. Seasoned trainers guided the participants, providing invaluable insights into crafting unique and marketable products that would resonate with potential customers.

Poultry Training

The training program spanned 25 days, commencing with a five-day classroom session, followed by hands-on activities at the household level, bolstered by the active involvement of Village Development Committees (VDCs). The engagement of these committees, along with the commitment of all 120 identified beneficiaries, played a pivotal role in the program's resounding success.

Beyond the initial classroom phase, women were granted an additional five days to prepare their poultry houses, ensuring the requisite infrastructure was in place. Each beneficiary then received a set of 13 female and 2 male birds (pullets), laying the foundation for their poultry operations. Beyond immediate empowerment, this initiative serves as a catalyst for lasting change.

When the ILO and ACT introduced the idea of empowering women through entrepreneurship, I was both excited and apprehensive. Excited about the possibility of creating a better future for my family, but apprehensive due to my lack of experience in business. However, they provided us with comprehensive training, equipping us with the necessary skills and knowledge to start our own poultry ventures confidently.

Zavar Mai, Poultry training beneficiary

Training on Climate-smart Agriculture:

A beacon of hope for flood-affected communities in Jaffarabad district, "Training of on Climate Smart Agriculture Methodologies and Kitchen Gardening" the program engaged 161 participants across 5 different clusters. The comprehensive training curriculum covered vital aspects of climate-smart agriculture, including seed diversification, multi-cropping, intercropping, agroforestry, integrated pest management, and the innovative drip irrigation method.

50 post-activity visits confirmed that participants had successfully established kitchen gardens, showcasing the effective application of the learned techniques in real-world scenarios.

Enterprise Development:

The Enterprise Development program reaching 60 eager participants across Naseer Khan Khosa village and Sanaullah Khan Norani. This marks a significant milestone in equipping individuals with the tools and knowledge needed to turn their entrepreneurial dreams into reality. Dedicated visits by the Technical Expert ensured continued support and guidance during the crucial 7 days engagement activities. New sample materials were provided, further fueling the practical application of acquired skills and the blossoming of innovative product ideas.

Enterprise Exhibition:

ACT International, in collaboration with the World Food Program (WFP), orchestrated an enchanting exhibition seminar in Jaffarabad. This unique event served as a vibrant showcase for the exquisite handicrafts crafted by beneficiaries who successfully completed a dedicated 4-month enterprise development training program.

Renowned for their vibrant colors and intricate designs, Baloch crafts stand as cherished gems in the cultural tapestry of the region. The comprehensive training program empowered participants to elevate the quality and marketability of their products, focusing on essential techniques in embroidery, weaving,

and glasswork.

In a collaborative effort between ACT International, WFP, and local stakeholders, this initiative highlighted a shared commitment to sustainable development and economic empowerment in Jaffarabad. The event exemplifies the positive impact of empowering individuals through skill development, promoting cultural heritage, and fostering economic opportunities within communities.





Total Beneficiaries: 0.4 million

Social protection is crucial in addressing gender-based violence (GBV) by offering financial security, health-care, and legal support to survivors, reducing economic dependency and empowering individuals to escape abuse. ACT's programs focus on supporting vulnerable communities, with ongoing efforts in 2023 to assist those most affected through both private and donor-funded initiatives.

اپنے حق کیلئے آواز اٹھائیں نئی زندگی کیلئے قدم بڑھائیں



نفسیاتی راہنمائی

پولیس سے رابطہ

قانونی معاونت

پناہ گاہ تک رسائی

ہسپتال سے رابطہ

گھریلو، صنفی، نفسیاتی، معاشی اور معاشرتی عدم تحفظ سے شکار خواتین فوری طور پر فوری ہیلپ لائن پر کال کریں اور معاونت حاصل کریں



AIMING
CHANGE FOR
TOMORROW

حکومت بلوچستان کا معاشرتی تبدیلی کی جانب اہم قدم

ACT is actively promoting women's rights through comprehensive strategies including policy advocacy, community mobilization, engagement of men, awareness campaigns, and the provision of medical and legal services. In 2023, ACT collaborated with UNFPA and ILO to advance these efforts.

Details of GBV activities are given below:

Establishing 16 Women and Girls Friendly Spaces (WGFS)

In response to the 2022 flood aftermath, ACT partnered with UNFPA to address healthcare needs in affected communities. By establishing Women and Girls Friendly Spaces (WGFS), ACT aimed to mitigate morbidity and mortality, focusing on addressing health-related issues among vulnerable groups such as adolescent girls, pregnant women, newborns, and women of reproductive age in flood-affected regions. Total 16 centres have been established in Flood-Affected Areas of (Badin and Omerkot) Sindh, (Naseerabad and Sibbi) Baluchistan, and (Rajanpur and Dera Ghazi Khan) Southern Punjab. Through timely information dissemination, awareness campaigns, and vital relief services, including dignity kits, antenatal checkups, and healthcare referrals, ACT successfully achieved its objectives in the one-year project that concluded in December 2023.

The activities included engaging activities and awareness seminar in WGFS centers. These initiatives aimed to address region-specific challenges, facilitate access to healthcare resources, and underscore the importance of education as a tool for empowerment.



Women day celebration:

International Women’s Day is a globally celebrated event that takes place annually on March 8. The day is dedicated to celebrating the achievements of women in social, economic, political, and cultural fields. It is also a time to highlight the challenges that women still face, including gender inequality and discrimination. As part of our commitment to the empowerment of women, ACT International celebrated International Women’s Day across its offices in Pakistan with its staff and communities.

This collective acknowledgment underscores our dedication to fostering an environment where women’s achievements are celebrated, their challenges addressed, and their invaluable contributions to society continually recognized and uplifted

Women’s Community Centers Empower and Re-build:

In a testament to resilience and community spirit, a new chapter unfolds for women in flood-affected districts. The Employment Intensive Reconstruction project, spearheaded by International Labor Organization (ILO), ACT International, has not only rebuilt homes and infrastructure, but also initiated a powerful symbol of empowerment – the Women’s Community Center (WCC).

Equipped with cutting-edge technology, the WCC operates as a cost-effective tele-health clinic, bringing vital maternal, newborn, and child health services to 1,800 women and their families. 750 women (non-CFW) access crucial trainings on critical topics like gender-based violence (GBV), prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and health and hygiene. These empowering sessions are not merely words on paper, but transformative tools. Women gain vital knowledge and skills to navigate the complexities of GBV, understand the importance of PSEA, and adopt healthy practices that safeguard their families.

Perhaps the most profound change lies in the shift of power dynamics. With increased knowledge and skills, women are actively participating in decision-making processes, their voices ringing out with newfound confidence. This surge in empowerment is paving the way for a more inclusive and gender-sensitive community, where women are not only recipients of support but also agents of positive change.

16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence:

From November 25th to December 10th, the 16 Days of Activism campaign rallies our collective efforts against gender-based violence. UNFPA Pakistan joins yearly to combat violence against women and girls. Together with UNFPA, ACT International organizes impactful activities across Balochistan, Sindh, and Rajanpur, challenging norms and promoting access to healthcare and education for women.

ACT International and UNFPA joined hands to organize a series of impactful activities across the Women’s Gateway to Financial Services (WGFS) regions of Balochistan, Sindh, and Rajanpur. The activities were meticulously designed to address the unique needs and challenges faced by women in each locale, the initiatives commenced with open dialogues challenging deeply ingrained norms surrounding gender-based violence and harmful traditional practices. These discussions provided a platform for awareness and discourse, setting the stage for transformative change. As the activities unfolded, the focus seamlessly shifted towards promoting broader access to healthcare and education, recognizing these as pivotal factors in empowering women.



Iftar drive:

Throughout Pakistan, more than 300 Dastar Khawans, vibrant communal gatherings, flourished during Ramadan, turning it into a joyous celebration of shared humanity and boundless empathy.

Qurbani Drive:

This initiative involved the sacrificial offering of 103 animals, delivering essential nourishment to more than 2060 beneficiaries spanning orphanages, old homes, flood-affected families, and hospitals. Beyond mere sustenance, the drive served as a platform for female empowerment, with an impressive 88% of volunteers being women, including 20% partaking in the sacrificial act for the first time. Children, too, actively engaged in the initiative, fostering a sense of community involvement and compassion from an early age.

Dignity Kts Distribution (UNFPA):

Successful distribution of dignity kits to pregnant and lactating women in Kot Mengal, Naseerabad District, Balochistan, has commenced. This collaborative effort underscores our collective dedication to safeguarding the health and dignity of women, especially during the vulnerable phases of pregnancy and childbirth.

Beneficiaries were identified from the Women's Group Family Support (WGFS) in Kot Mengal, Naseerabad District, for the distribution of these essential kits. This significant initiative, made possible through our partnership with UNFPA, aims to provide crucial support to women throughout their pregnancies and lactation periods, promoting their overall well-being in the region.

اور کون ہے جو اللہ کو قرضِ حسنہ دے کہ اللہ اس کو اس کیلئے کئی گنا بڑھائے، اللہ ہی ہے
تنگ دستی بھی دیتا ہے اور کشادگی بھی دیتا ہے اور اسی کی طرف تم کو لوٹنا بھی ہے
(سورۃ البقرہ، 245)

Donate Zakaat & Sadaqaat for Flood Affected Populations of Balochistan and Rajanpur

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DEMOCRATIC
GOVERNANCE &
EMPOWERMENT



“Guided by the helpline, I have learned to navigate the storm within me. Today, I stand not just as a medical student, but as a warrior of my own destiny.”

A thought from NYHL helpline beneficiary

Advocacy session with PIERA Officials and representatives of private schools on the Adoption of National Guidelines on LSBE and standalone Curriculum.

ACT and UNFPA are driving the integration of Life Skills-Based Education (LSBE) into private schools, a transformative endeavor sparked by a session with the Private Education Institutions Regulatory Authority (PIERA). This initiative seeks to infuse LSBE Guidelines and a dedicated curriculum into private education, fostering a holistic approach. By enlightening PIERA representatives, administrators, and teachers, this collaborative effort aims to seamlessly adopt LSBE Guidelines, laying the groundwork for a future where life skills education is central to private school curricula.

National Youth Helpline Seminar:

In collaboration with UNFPA and HEC, ACT International organized seminars across Lahore, Islamabad, and Karachi to address mental health challenges among Pakistani youth. Highlighting the National Youth Helpline (NYHL), the seminars provided a platform for youth to access support and resources for mental well-being. Esteemed speakers discussed the complexities of mental health and encouraged open dialogue to foster resilience and advocate for holistic approaches to mental well-being.





Community-Based Climate Resilience: Awareness Session and Walk on Climate Change.

In Jaffarabad, ACT International’s Regional Office led an initiative at Government Boys Degree College, engaging 250 participants in climate resilience advocacy. Through an enlightening session and an awareness walk to Usta Chowk, attendees grasped the local impact of climate change and learned strategies for mitigation. Discussions covered the ACT-WFP project on “Community-Based Climate Resilience,” climate-smart agriculture, and tree planting. Speakers emphasized the urgency of climate action and youth involvement. A tree planting ceremony concluded the event, symbolizing commitment to environmental stewardship and a brighter future.

Protecting Community’s Environment from Degradation through Climate Smart Activities (Seminar and Walks):

In collaboration with the World Food Program (WFP), ACT initiated impactful awareness initiatives in Rajanpur, aiming for a greener future. Through seminars and awareness walks, the communities, youth, and line departments were sensitized to environmental issues, fostering a collective sense of responsibility. Topics included flood mitigation and sustainable lifestyles, while activities like tree planting and waste collection drives promoted environmental consciousness. Youth engagement was prioritized to cultivate future leaders in climate action.





Pink Ribbon Awareness Launching Campaign:

In annual observance of “Breast Cancer Awareness” month, President Arif Alvi and First Lady Begum Samina Alvi have been leading a nationwide campaign since 2018. Held at Aiwan-e-Sadr Islamabad on October 23rd, 2023, the event drew esteemed guests, including ministers, diplomats, health practitioners, and representatives from international and national organizations. Collaborative efforts from Aiming Change for Tomorrow (ACT), Maroof International Hospital, Green Star, and the World Health Organization (WHO) were highlighted. President Arif Alvi stressed the importance of preventive measures, particularly in Pakistan where treatment costs are significant. Recognizing five years of commendable efforts, the President highlighted the positive impact on early-stage diagnosis, foreseeing a reduction in mortality rates. Both the President and First Lady urged unity in saving women, emphasizing the need to challenge social taboos and prioritize self-health. They called for a collective voice against breast cancer, underscoring its critical importance.



**DISASTER
PREPAREDNESS
RESPONSE &
RECOVERY**


Empowering communities through disaster resilience: Training, assistance, and proactive initiatives, spanning from preparedness to recovery

Total beneficiaries: 0.6 million

“I vividly recall those days when we were compelled to seek shelter under the open sky, with no protection, in the aftermath of the devastating floods. The overwhelming sense of vulnerability engulfed me, and I lived in constant fear for our safety, feeling deeply saddened by our circumstances,” expressed Mr. Malik’s sister, her voice laden with emotion. “The presence of unfamiliar men, staring at us, only added to my distress, and I couldn’t foresee when our suffering would end. However, I am immensely grateful to the VDC and the dedicated team from ACT/ILO, who came to our rescue and ensured that we now have a proper house to live in, free from fears and insecurities.”

Mr. Malik, one room house beneficiary

ACT provided emergency and rehabilitation support to communities affected in various districts of Balochistan and Punjab, Pakistan, with significant assistance from the World Food Programme. Our services included medical aid, housing support, installation of water filtration plants, distribution of seeds, and training for disaster-resilient committees to build local capacity.

Medical Camps

40 flood-affected communities across Districts Usta Muhammad, Naseerabad, and Jaffarabad. 3,156 patients received assistance, comprising 1,068 women (34%), 1,289 children (41%), and 799 men (25%). The average attendance was approximately 78 patients per medical camp.

1 room houses for vulnerable flood effected people in Village Umar Khan Jamali, Tehsil Jhat Pat, District Jaffarabad.

22 one-room houses and four washrooms
Total beneficiary: 154

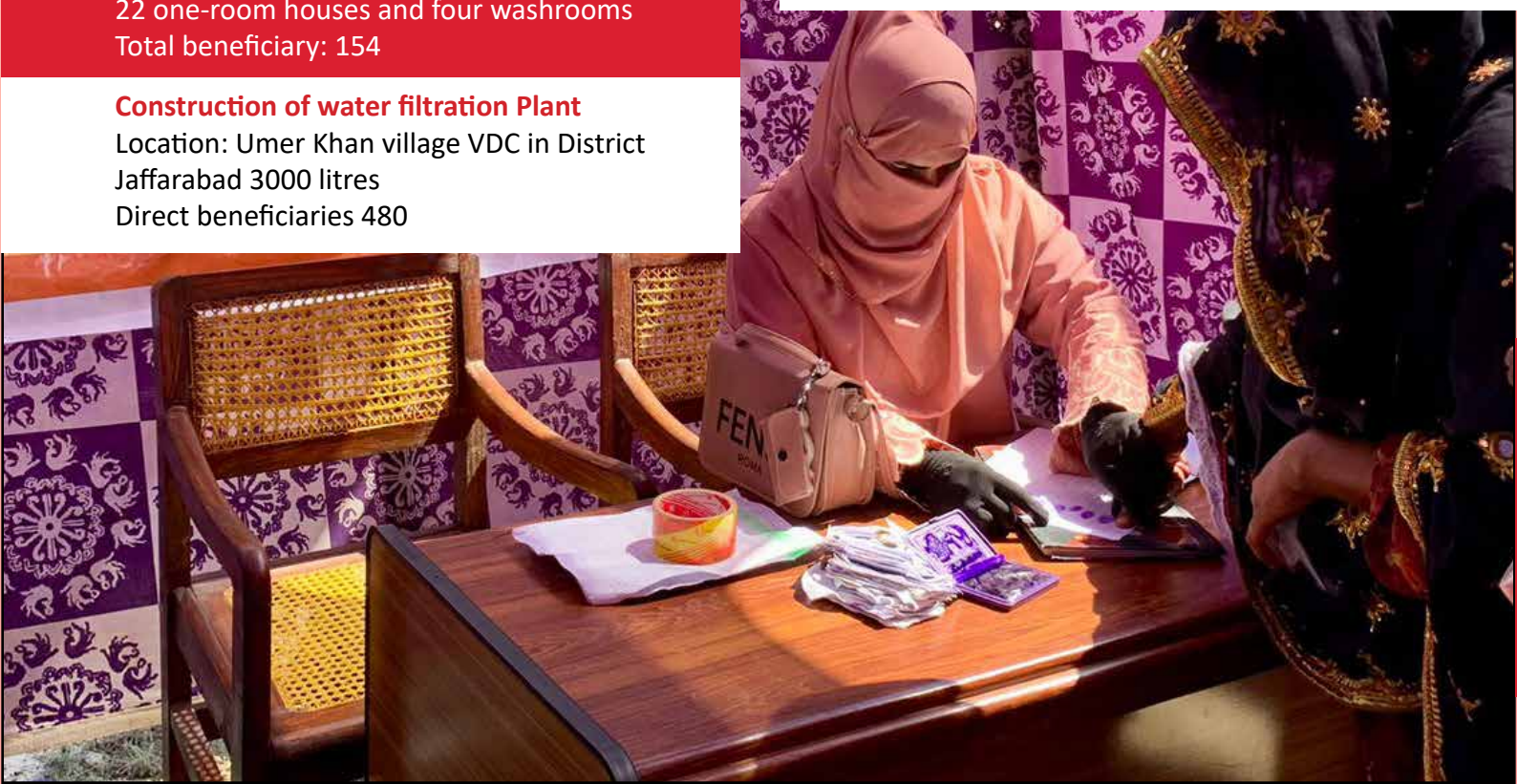
Construction of water filtration Plant

Location: Umer Khan village VDC in District Jaffarabad 3000 litres
Direct beneficiaries 480

Seed Distribution

3 districts (Districts Naseerabad, Jaffarabad, and Usta Muhammad)

120 farmers (40 farmers from each district)
Each farmer received 100 kg of wheat seed, 100 kg of Urea, and 100 kg of DAP sufficient for cultivating wheat on two acres of land. A total of 12,000 kg of wheat seeds, 12,000 kg of Urea, and 12,000 kg of DAP were distributed





Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR):

In October 2023, a series of training were conducted to strengthen local disaster preparedness by equipping Village Disaster Management Committees (VDMCs) with essential skills and knowledge. These initiatives targeted critical gaps in emergency response awareness, empowering communities to play a more effective role in disaster management. The training sessions, strategically located and engaging 60 participants including Presidents and General Secretaries of VDMCs, focused on enhancing understanding of the Early Warning System and the roles of relevant government departments during emergencies. This knowledge promotes improved coordination and response within the community.

These training initiatives have yielded significant results, enhancing participants' disaster response capabilities with integrated knowledge, skills, and insights. Focused on 6 Union Councils within Rajanpur, these efforts aim to strengthen the district's overall disaster resilience and contribute to its sustainable development. Beyond mitigating potential disasters, these projects also play a crucial role in promoting community well-being.

Training on Livestock Management:

In 2023, rural communities experienced a transformative shift through a series of three intensive 5-day training sessions. Focused on sustainable agricultural practices, these sessions, centered on Livestock Management, equipped participants with crucial knowledge and practical skills. Each session followed a meticulously planned curriculum covering animal care, nutrition, health, and breeding practices. Active engagement and a hands-on approach were pivotal to the program's success, enabling participants to effectively manage their livestock, generate sustainable income, and contribute significantly to community development.

Training of Market Linkages and Enterprises Development for Skilled Community

In response to the devastating floods in Rajanpur, the “Resilience and Recovery Interventions for Flood-Affected Communities Project” aimed to empower 100 female entrepreneurs in rebuilding their lives. The project carefully selected participants and implemented targeted capacity-building interventions. Specifically, it conducted four-day training sessions designed to equip these women with essential entrepreneurship skills. The sessions utilized interactive methodologies such as group discussions and demonstrations to create an engaging learning environment. Highlights included the selective inclusion of 20 focused women, progress assessments, and conducting sessions in the native language, “Saraiki.”





Leveraging Research & Development for Effective Interventions and Progressive Initiatives

Research plays a crucial role in shaping the design and approach of any organization's programs, guiding them in the right direction. Recognizing this significance, ACT continued to take proactive steps in 2023 towards research and knowledge management by conducting two research studies.

For further interest, brief summary of these studies is mentioned below:



Out of school children

Pakistan ranks as the second-highest country globally in terms of its population of out-of-school children and adolescents, with the province of Balochistan experiencing particularly severe challenges in this regard. The current study endeavors to probe this important issue while focusing on access to essential social services for school adolescents and youth, including education, employment, healthcare, and engagement. This study presented the findings of a qualitative study conducted in three districts of Balochistan Province—Harnai, Pishin, and Sibi.

Key areas of inquiry included priorities and challenges faced by the School Education Department, satisfaction levels regarding enrollment, the quality of education, and the availability of facilities in schools, as well as issues such as learning difficulties, access to and transportation for school, corporal punishment, affordability of educational material, poverty, inadequate water and sanitation facilities, socio-cultural norms, youth employment, health concerns of youth, child abuse and role of religious leaders, media personnel and NGO Workers.

The study revealed several social and structural factors contributing to high dropout rates in the region:

Economic hardships, including poverty and inflation, are key factors leading to the discontinuation of education among adolescents, exacerbated by disruptions in household income from unemployment or health issues, and the inability to afford school supplies. Additionally, parents' limited awareness of the importance of education and preference for immediate financial gains contribute to dropout rates. Child marriage, especially affecting young girls, further disrupts education. Lack of basic facilities in schools, learning difficulties due to language barriers and curriculum changes, and inadequate transportation options also contribute to dropout rates. Inaccessibility of healthcare services and instances of corporal punishment in schools further hinder educational outcomes. However, the positive influence of religious leaders and media personnel is acknowledged in increasing enrollment and reducing dropout rates, highlighting the importance of community involvement in addressing these challenges. Profiling of demographics of Transgender community in Rawalpindi, Islamabad and Multan

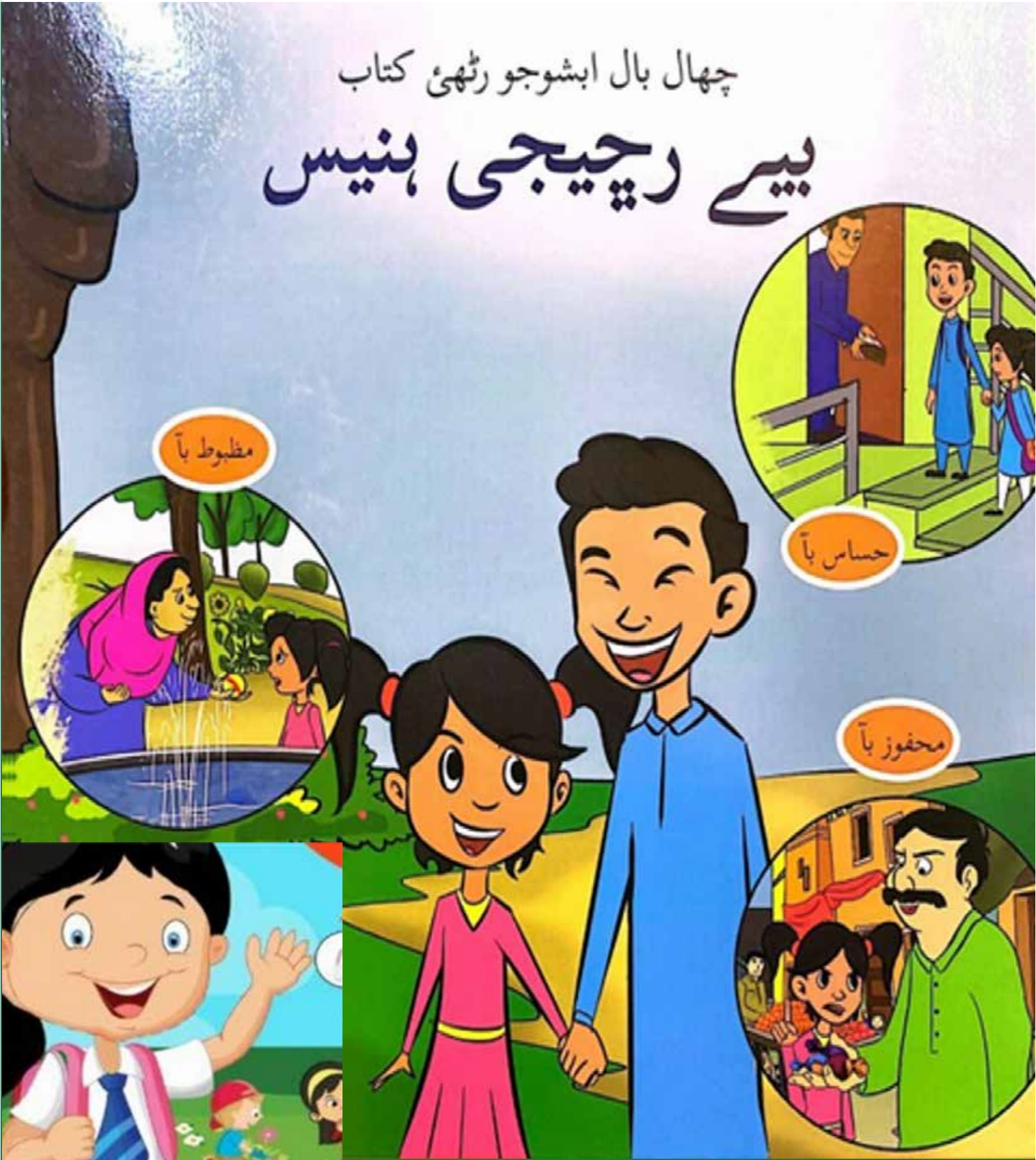


Transgender individuals constitute a marginalized segment of society, grappling with a multitude of challenges ranging from issues related to their identity and acceptance to educational attainment, job opportunities, violence, exploitation, and mental health problems. The study, conducted as a situational analysis, entailed the mapping and profiling of the transgender community in selected districts of Punjab and the Federal Capital, Pakistan. Employing a combination of quantitative and qualitative research techniques, the study comprehensively gathered data on the entire transgender population, including the Gurus who play a significant role in their community.

The study's findings unveiled a somber reality where a majority of transgender individuals do not reside with their families but instead find themselves under the supervision of Gurus in Dera Dari settings. These findings underscore the persistent challenges surrounding transgender identity, official documentation, and societal acceptance, particularly within governmental systems.

The educational and employment landscape paints a bleak picture, with the majority of transgender individuals lacking formal education and engaging in professions such as begging and dancing. Challenges like inadequate documentation, discrimination, and harassment were reported as major obstacles to securing gainful employment. Despite having access to healthcare facilities, transgender individuals grapple with significant hurdles concerning the environment and the behavior of healthcare providers, particularly in public facilities, which often leads them to delay seeking treatment and instead rely on Gurus and friends for health advice. Additionally, the poor financial conditions of transgender individuals and limited health coverage from formal institutions serve as significant barriers to accessing healthcare services.

The study also revealed that a significant portion of respondents encountered difficulties in accessing relevant information regarding sexual health and sexually transmitted infections. Alarmingly, a high prevalence of smoking and illicit drug use was observed among transgender individuals. Furthermore, the prevalence of mental health issues, primarily stemming from financial hardships and familial conflicts, exacerbated by a lack of psycho-social support, leaves transgender individuals vulnerable to these traumatic circumstances.



Audit Report

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Chartered Accountants

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MANAGEMENT

Opinion

We have audited the annexed financial statements of AIMING CHANGE FOR TOMORROW (ACT) INTERNATIONAL ("the Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at June 30, 2023 and the related income & expenditure account, statement of changes in funds and statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at June 30, 2023 and its financial performance, its cash flows and changes in funds for the year then ended in accordance with the approved accounting and reporting standards for non-profit organizations as applicable in Pakistan.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Pakistan and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the approved accounting and reporting standards for non-profit organizations as applicable in Pakistan and the relevant provisions of the Funding Agreement between the Principal and the Organization and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of the users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit, in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

ASO

Other Offices: Lahore – Karachi – Gujranwala
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Ilyas Saeed & Co.*Chartered Accountants*

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, if any, and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report related to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transaction and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Engagement Partner: IMRAN ILYAS
ISLAMABAD: 07/03/2024
UDIN: AR202310247YsPRw4163



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AIMING CHANGE FOR TOMORROW (ACT) INTERNATIONAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT JUNE 30, 2023

ASSETS	NOTE	2023 RUPEES	2022 RUPEES
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property & equipment	4	4,342,265	621,117
Intangible assets	5	40,000	120,000
Security deposits	6	823,596	178,596
		5,205,861	919,713
CURRENT ASSETS			
Advances, prepayments & receivables	7	37,806,567	4,599,491
Cash & cash equivalents	8	40,862,826	37,152,082
		78,669,393	41,751,573
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>83,875,254</u>	<u>42,671,286</u>
FUNDS & LIABILITIES			
FUNDS			
Accumulated (deficit)	9	(23,916,678)	(15,208,739)
Restricted funds	10	65,112,495	52,008,449
		41,195,816	36,799,710
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deferred income	11	-	79,491
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accrued & other payables	12	42,679,438	5,792,085
CONTINGENCIES & COMMITMENTS			
	13	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS & LIABILITIES		<u>83,875,254</u>	<u>42,671,286</u>

The annexed notes from 1 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DIRECTOR



Aiming Change For Tomorrow

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